



Globally Proven  
Construction Solutions

# LATICRETE Grout Guide

## TDS-1400

Grout, when properly installed, will enhance the final appearance and performance of any tile, paver, stone, or brick installation. The LATICRETE® Technical Service Dept. offers this LATICRETE Grout Guide to insure that the project specifier is given enough information to make the best possible decision about the selection, installation and maintenance of grout.

Please refer to this guide and the specific data sheets for the LATICRETE grouts being used prior to beginning any tile installation – ideally while you are in the project design phase. This information offers general information to facilitate the many steps or decisions that must be made regarding grout type, installation and long-term performance.

### *Selection of LATICRETE Grout Colours:*

The LATICRETE® System offers readily available, factory prepared grout in a wide range of colours.

LATICRETE Grouts can also be custom colour matched to many colours not available in the LATICRETE Grout colour spectrum. Custom colour matching involves a minimum 1000kg approx. order for SPECTRALOCK® PRO Premium Grout\*, approximately 1000kg and for SPECTRALOCK PRO Grout; and approximately 1200kg order for PERMACOLOR® Grout, 1500 Sanded Grout or 1600 Unsanded Grout. There is a colour matching fee which is non-refundable if product is not ordered. A credit will be applied to the order when placed.

PERMACOLOR Select special orders require a minimum of 1 carton (10 packs) of PERMACOLOR Select Colour Kits to be mixed with 11.3 kg bags or 5.7 kg bags of PERMACOLOR Select powder. PERMACOLOR Select standard colours include the 40 LATICRETE colours, any colours available in the Sherwin Williams or Benjamin Moore paint colour palettes, and 10 popular colours each from some of our competitors. There is a colour matching fee which is non-refundable if product is not ordered. A credit will be applied to the order when placed.

This array of coloured grouts offers unlimited design freedom. Room function, exposure to chemicals, soiling, or moisture must be taken into account when selecting grout colours. Please note the following points about coloured grout:

1. The LATICRETE Grout Colour Chart (DS 254.3) depicts other products including 1500 Sanded Grout & 1600 Unsanded Grout which are not available in Australia. Printed samples of grout colours are made as accurate as possible. Mixing with other additives will cause slight variation. The LATICRETE Grout Colour Card depicts colours representative of PERMACOLOR Select; PERMACOLOR Grout; SPECTRALOCK PRO Premium Grout; SPECTRALOCK PRO Grout; SPECTRALOCK Grout; LATAPOXY® SP-100; and SPECTRALOCK 2000 IG. IMPORTANT NOTE: Colour samples are printed reproductions, and should only be used as approximate guides to appearance. Actual shade and texture will depend on jobsite conditions, installation technique, tile characteristics, lighting and other factors beyond grout/ sealant manufacturer's control. Verify appearance with a test area before main installation commences. See Grout Colour Chart for colour applicable to each type of grout.
2. White or lightly coloured grout joints show soil readily. For example, a light coloured grout in a kitchen or entry wide will appear dirty in a shorter period of time when compared to a narrow and/or dark grout.
3. Neutral gray, dark gray or medium coloured grouts are less likely to show soil than will a light coloured grout.
4. Dark joints in a shower or exterior may show water deposits and/or the natural occurrence of efflorescence more readily than a lighter coloured joint.
5. For maximum colour consistency always use grout with the same control/lot number. Grout colours may vary due to jobsite conditions (e.g. temperature, cure rate, moisture content, etc).
6. Some grout pigment can stain the surface of certain types of tile, etc. A grout release (e.g. STONETECH® Grout Release), sealer (e.g. STONETECH® Heavy Duty Sealer) or paraffin wax applied to the top of these types of tiles prior to grout installation, may reduce staining problems. Verify compatibility with a test area.

### *LATICRETE Grout Coverage:*

1. Coverage of LATICRETE grout products is available by referencing Data Sheet 254.3, the LATICRETE Grout packaging coverage chart, or the LATICRETE Grout Coverage Calculator located at [www.laticrete.com.au/Support/GroutCalculator/tabid/564/Default.aspx](http://www.laticrete.com.au/Support/GroutCalculator/tabid/564/Default.aspx)

2. Coverage may vary considerably when grout joint width varies or when cushion-edge or wave-edge tile are specified. When several tiles are used to create an overall pattern, grout width will be predetermined by any mounted tile.
3. It is customary to provide extra grout (typically 10% extra) to allow for jobsite waste. Additional grout should be provided to the building owner for future use.
4. The LATICRETE® Mobile App can be accessed through the App Store for Apple devices or through Google Play for Android devices. Use keyword LATICRETE to locate the LATICRETE Mobile App. Included in the LATICRETE Mobile App is a coverage calculator for easy reference, anywhere.

### *Criteria for Finished Grout Appearance:*

The following criteria should be used to judge the final grout installation. Finished joints must be:

1. Uniform in colour, no “show through” of setting/fixing materials
2. Compacted and cured to maximum hardness (not powdery)
3. Smooth and evenly filled
4. Without voids or pinholes
5. Grout can be finished to near level of tile surfaces (except with the installation of cushioned edge tile where requirement is to depth of cushion, and epoxy grouts, where slight depression is accepted by the industry)
6. Grout should not be higher than the tile surface
7. No grout or grout haze should remain on surface of tile, etc...
8. Contact and adhesion by the grout to each tile is crucial for both long-term performance and maintenance.

Refer to AS3958.1 & 2 for industry guidelines on grout joint size.

Please refer to specific data sheet(s) for LATICRETE grout(s) being used for installation instructions and for more information. Data sheets are available at [www.laticrete.com.au](http://www.laticrete.com.au).

LATAPOXY® SP-100

LATICRETE® SPECTRALOCK® 2000 IG

LATICRETE SPECTRALOCK\* PRO Premium Grout

LATICRETE SPECTRALOCK PRO Grout

LATICRETE PERMACOLOR® Select^

LATICRETE PERMACOLOR Grout

\* United States Patent No.: 6,881,768 (and other patents)

^ United States Patent No.: 6,784,229 (and other patents)

LATICRETE Australia Pty Ltd • 29 Telford Street, Virginia, QLD 4014 Australia  
1800 331 012 | [technicalsupport@laticrete.com.au](mailto:technicalsupport@laticrete.com.au) | [www.laticrete.com.au](http://www.laticrete.com.au)

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